

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-18, add new claims 19-26, and cancel claims 4 and 12 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus, A communication system comprising:
a user equipment;
an access network to which said user equipment is attachable; and
an access controller connected to said an access network and a domain, wherein
the access network is configured to attach to user equipment;
wherein said access controller arranged is configured to control resolving of
domain name information for both server addresses within said domain or accessible via
said domain, and server addresses that are not within said domain or accessible via said
domain; and
wherein said access controller is configured to:
receive a query from said user equipment a query identifying a domain name; and
in response to a determination that said user equipment is authorized and there is
specified for said domain name a server address within said domain or accessible via said
domain resolve domain name information for said domain name within said domain; and
in response to a determination that the user equipment is not authorized and/or that
there is no specified server address for said domain name within said domain or
accessible via said domain resolve the domain name information for said domain name

~~outside said domain. for a service provided by said domain or a service accessible via said domain, to determine if said user equipment is authorized and, if so, to permit said user equipment to obtain said service from or via said domain.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~A system~~ An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said access network comprises one of:

an ~~IP~~ internet protocol based network independent of access method;

a wireless local area network ~~WLAN~~;

a digital subscriber line ~~DSL~~ network;

an ethernet ~~Ethernet~~;

a general packet radio service ~~GPRS~~ network;

a third generation wireless ~~3G~~ network; and

a ~~Bluetooth~~ wireless personal area network.

3. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein said domain is a mobile operator operated domain.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 1, comprising an authorization server function wherein said access controller is ~~arranged~~ configured to determine if ~~authorize~~ said user equipment is authorized by communication with said authorization server function.

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 5, wherein said authorization server function comprises information defining a profile for said user equipment.

7. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 5, wherein said authorization server function is ~~arranged~~ configured to provide attributes to said access controller, said access controller ~~arranged~~ configured to determine session parameters for said user equipment based on said attributes.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein said access controller is ~~arranged~~ configured to provide an authorization function in the event that ~~if~~ said query received from said user equipment identifies said access controller.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein said access controller is ~~arranged~~ configured to provide an authorization function in the

~~event that~~ if said query received from said user equipment identifies said access controller as a primary domain name server.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 8, wherein said query comprises a ~~DHCP~~ dynamic host configuration protocol query.

11. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~A system~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the access controller is configured to in response to a determination that if the access controller determines that said user equipment is not authorized resolve said domain name at a server of the access network. ~~, a required service or an IP address of an Internet host is obtained via said access network connected to the Internet.~~

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) ~~An access controller for use in a communication~~ A system, comprising comprises:

~~a~~ user equipment;

an access network to which said user equipment is configured to attach ~~attachable~~,

an access controller ~~said access controller being configured to connect~~ ~~connectable~~

to said access network;

and a domain to which said access controller is connected;

; wherein said access controller is configured to control resolving of domain name information for both server addresses within said domain or accessible via said domain, and server addresses that are not within said domain or accessible via said domain; and

wherein said access controller is configured to:

receive from said user equipment a query identifying a domain name; and

in response to a determination that said user equipment is authorized and there is specified for said domain name a server address within said domain or accessible via said domain resolve domain name information for said domain name within said domain; and

in response to a determination that said user equipment is not authorized and/or that there is no specified server address for said domain name within said domain or accessible via said domain resolve the domain name information for said domain name outside said domain.

~~wherein said access controller is arranged to receive a query from said user equipment for a service provided by said domain, or a patent practice service accessible via said domain, to check if said user equipment is authorized and, if so, to permit said user equipment to obtain said service from or via said domain.~~

14. (Currently amended) A system controller as claimed in claim 13, wherein said access controller is ~~arranged~~ configured to determine when ~~authorize~~ said user equipment is authorized by communication with an authorization server function.

15. (Currently amended) A system controller as claimed in claim 13, wherein said access controller is ~~arranged~~ configured to provide an authorization function in the event that if the query received from said user equipment identifies said access controller.

16. (Currently amended) A system controller as claimed in claim 13, wherein said access controller is configured to in response to a determination that if said user equipment is not authorized resolve domain name information for said domain name, ~~the access controller is arranged to query at~~ a server of said access network ~~in response to the query~~.

17. (Currently amended) A ~~communication~~ method, comprising:
receiving ~~a query~~ at an access controller connected to a domain and an access network from user equipment attached to said an access network for a service provided by a domain or a service accessible via said domain a query identifying a domain name;
~~checking if said user equipment is authorized; and~~
in response to a determination that said user equipment is authorized and there is specified for said domain name a server address within said domain or accessible via said domain resolving domain name information for said domain name within said domain;
and
in response to a determination that said user equipment is not authorized and/or that there is no specified server address for said domain name within said domain or

accessible via said domain resolving the domain name information for said domain name outside said domain.

~~if so, permitting said user equipment to obtain said service from or via said domain.~~

18. (Currently amended) ~~A communication system~~ An apparatus, comprising:
receiving means for receiving ~~a query~~ at an access controller connected to an access network and a domain from user equipment attached to ~~an said~~ access network ~~for a service provided by a domain or a service accessible via said domain~~ a query identifying a domain name;

~~checking means for checking if said user equipment is authorized; and~~

controlling means for in response to a determination that said user equipment is authorized and there is specified for said domain name a server address within said domain or accessible via said domain resolving domain name information for said domain name within said domain; and in response to a determination that said user equipment is not authorized and/or that there is no specified server address for said domain name within said domain or accessible via said domain resolving domain name information for said domain name outside said domain.

~~if so, permitting means for permitting said user equipment to obtain said service from or via said domain.~~

19. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said access network comprises one of:

an internet protocol based network independent of access method;

a wireless local area network;

a digital subscriber line network;

an ethernet;

a general packet radio service network;

a third generation wireless network; and

a wireless personal area network.

20. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said domain is a mobile operator operated domain.

21. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, comprising determining if said user equipment is authorized by communicating with an authorization server function.

22. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said authorization server function comprises information defining a profile for said user equipment.

23. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said authorization server function provides attributes to said access controller, and wherein the method further

comprises determining session parameters for said user equipment based on said attributes.

24. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising providing an authorization function in the event that said query received from said user equipment identifies said access controller.

25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising providing an authorization function in the event that said query received from said user equipment identifies said access controller as a primary domain name server.

26. (New) A method as claimed in claim 17, comprising in response to a determination that said user equipment is not authorized, resolving domain name information for said domain name at a server of said access network.